

STATE OF TEXAS §  
COUNTIES OF ARANSAS §  
SAN PATRICIO AND NUECES §  
CITY OF ARANSAS PASS §

On this the 20th day of December, 2010 the City Council of the City of Aransas Pass convened in a Special Council Meeting being open to the Public at the regular meeting place thereof in the City Hall and notice of said meeting giving the time, place, date and subject hereof having been posted and prescribed by Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code with the following attendance to wit constituting a quorum.

PRESENT:	Tommy Knight,	Mayor
	Vickie Abrego,	Mayor Pro Tempore
	Ross McElwee	Council Member
	Jay Attaway	Council Member
	Phillip Hyatt	Council Member

ABSENT:

ADMINISTRATIVE		
PERSONNEL PRESENT:	Allen Lawrence	City Attorney
	Reggie Winters,	City Manager

ADMINISTRATIVE		
PERSONNEL ABSENT:	Yvonne Stonebraker	City Secretary

STAFF PRESENT:

OTHERS PRESENT:	Don Brummett, Phil & Nell Reynolds, Thomas Champagne/CenterPoint Energy, Ed & Ellie Block, Randy & Jeanne Hunter, and Patsy Lawrence.
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*There may have been others present who did not sign in.*

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER.**

Mayor Knight called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. on December 20, 2010.

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES FLAG.**

Mayor Pro Tem Abrego gave the invocation. Mayor Knight led the pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

3. **CONSIDER AND ACT ON APPROVING THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 6, 2010.**

Council Member Hyatt made a motion to approve the minutes of December 6, 2010. Mayor Pro Tem Abrego seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

4. **CONSIDER AND ACT ON RESOLUTION NO. 2010-644 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TAX RESALE ON LOT 21, BLOCK 214.**

Council Member Attaway made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2010-644 – a Resolution authorizing tax re-sale on Lot 21, Block 214 for \$18,750.00. Council Member McElwee seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

5. **CONSIDER AND ACT ON RESOLUTION NO. 2010-645 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ARANSAS PASS, TEXAS, SUSPENDING THE JANUARY 7, 2011, EFFECTIVE DATE OF CENTERPOINT ENERGY TEXAS GAS SOUTH DIVISION REQUESTED RATE CHANGE TO PERMIT THE CITY TIME TO STUDY THE REQUEST AND TO ESTABLISH REASONABLE RATES; APPROVING COOPERATION WITH OTHER CITIES IN THE CENTERPOINT SOUTH TEXAS SERVICE AREA TO HIRE LEGAL AND CONSULTING SERVICES AND TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE COMPANY AND DIRECT ANY NECESSARY LITIGATION AND APPEALS; AUTHORIZING INTERVENTION IN GUD NO. 10,038 AT THE RAILROAD COMMISSION; AUTHORIZING LEGAL REPRESENTATION; REQUIRING REIMBURSEMENT OF CITIES' RATE CASE EXPENSES; FINDING THAT THE MEETING AT WHICH THIS RESOLUTION IS PASSED IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AS REQUIRED BY LAW; REQUIRING NOTICE OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE COMPANY AND LEGAL COUNSEL.**

City Manager Reggie Winters stated he would like the Council to approve Resolution No. 2010-645, which was a resolution suspending rate increases for up to 120 days. He stated Mr. Thomas Champagne was present on behalf of CenterPoint Energy to answer any questions.

Mr. Champagne stated approximately five years ago, CenterPoint Energy approved a no rate increase for the South Texas Division. He stated all South Texas cities were on the same rate scale. He stated, after five years, CenterPoint Energy wanted to increase the amount of their minimum bill, which would bring the commodity cost down.

Mayor Pro Tem Abrego asked Mr. Champagne if the rates could still go up after signing the suspension letter.

Mr. Champagne stated yes.

Council Member Attaway made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2010-645 – a Resolution of the City of Aransas Pass, Texas, suspending the January 7, 2011, effective date of Centerpoint Energy Texas Gas South Division requested rate change to permit the city time to study the request and to establish reasonable rates; approving cooperation with other cities in the Centerpoint South Texas service area to hire legal and consulting services and to negotiate with the company and direct any necessary litigation and appeals; authorizing intervention in GUD No. 10,038 at the Railroad Commission; authorizing legal representation; requiring reimbursement of cities' rate case expenses; finding that the meeting at which this resolution is passed is open to the public as required by law; requiring notice of this resolution to the company and legal counsel. Council Member McElwee seconded the motion and the motion carried with Mayor Pro Tem Abrego voting no.

6. **REVIEW AND DISCUSS UNAUDITED FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2009 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2010 BUDGET REPORTS.**

The City Council reviewed the unaudited fiscal year October 1, 2009 – September 30, 2010 budget reports with Finance Director Sandy Roddel.

7. **REVIEW AND DISCUSS NOVEMBER 2010 BUDGET REPORTS.**

The City Council reviewed the November 2010 budget report with City Manager Reggie Winters.

8. **CITIZENS COMMENTS.**

Detective Captain Robert Gonzales and Detective Sergeants' Leo Martinez and Antonio Davila presented items confiscated during a recent bust.

9. **RECESS REGULAR MEETING AND RETIRE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 551 OF TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE.**

Recessed into Executive Session at 7:38 P.M.

**A SECTION 551.072 -- DELIBERATIONS REGARDING REAL PROPERTY**

10. **Reconvene in Regular Meeting and Consider and Act on Findings of Executive Session**

Reconvened into Regular Meeting at 9:05 P.M.

**A Section 551.072 -- Deliberations Regarding Real Property**

Council Member Attaway made a motion to approve Mayor Knight continuing deliberations regarding Real Property. Council Member Hyatt seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

11. **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING.**

Council Member McElwee made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Attaway seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Knight adjourned the meeting at 9:06 P.M.

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Tommy Knight, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Yvonne Stonebraker, City Secretary